



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

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## ***SOUTH DAKOTA FARM NUMBERS UNCHANGED FROM 2006***

**SIOUX FALLS, February 1, 2008** -- The **number of farms in South Dakota** in 2007 is estimated at 31,300, unchanged from 2006, according to the South Dakota office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. This is down 4 percent from 32,500 farms ten years ago and down 11 percent from 35,500 farms twenty years ago. Total **land in farms** in 2007, at 43.7 million acres, is unchanged from one year ago. South Dakota's 2007 **average farm size** of 1,396 acres is also unchanged from one year ago.

In 2007, farms with **less than \$250,000 of sales** decreased by 100, while farms with **more than \$250,000 in sales** increased by 100, keeping the total number of farms steady.

**LIVESTOCK FARMS:** The number of farms raising livestock in South Dakota during 2007 increased from a year ago. **Operations raising cattle** in 2007 totaled 16,700, an increase of 200 from 2006. **Operations raising beef cows** totaled 14,500, unchanged from the year before; while **farms with milk cows** in 2007 numbered 670, down 80 from the year before.

**Farms raising hogs** in 2007 in South Dakota numbered 1,000, down 100 from the year before; while **operations raising sheep** totaled 2,000, unchanged from 2006. **Farms raising goats** in 2007 in South Dakota totaled 510, down from the 560 in 2006.

Access this complete report at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/nass/FarmLandIn/2000s/2008/FarmLandIn-02-01-2008.pdf>